Plague in Mattancheri and Ernakulam.

229. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the total number of persons inoculated for plague in Mattancheri and Ernakulam respectively till now; of these the number of literates and illiterates;

(b) whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, the Municipal Chairman, Mattancheri, the District Munsiff and Magistrate of the place were inoculated; if so, when;

(c) the names of Heads of Departments and Vakils who were inoculated in Ernakulam?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Numbers inoculated in Mattancheri 2,176.

In Ernakulam 303.

The number of literates and illiterates could not be picked out from the register.

(b) The Chairman, Mattancheri Municipal Council, was inoculated twice on 24th July 1928 and 27th August 1928. The other gentlemen referred to were not inoculated.

(c) No Heads of Departments or Vakils in Ernakulam were inoculated.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Did the Chief Medical Officer visit the plague affected area in Mattancheri several times during that time?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Then I want to know whether he was plague-proof and whether he was inoculated? Two thousand people were inoculated. He was not inoculated. Did he administer any other medicine to protect himself from plague?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Member can see it for himself now whether I was plague stricken or not.

President.—But then you should be sure that you would not be affected by plague when doing those functions.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I was sure that I would not be affected. But then inoculation is not compulsory. That answer suffices, I think.

President.—So you did not think that you would in any way be affected even without inoculation.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know whether all those Government officials and Vakils were inoculated when so many were inoculated?

President.—We cannot compel those people to get inoculated. If they come forward, well and good.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—These poor people were advised and persuaded by Government.

President.—Those people were persuaded.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—So the educated people were not convinced that inoculation would protect them from plague.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—They were also persuaded.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Were these educated people also persuaded ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Oh, yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—And they were not convinced?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I do not know whether they were convinced or not.

Operations and deaths in the General Hospital.

230. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to inform: –

(a) the number of abdominal and major operations performed since Dr. Puduval went on leave to-date ;

(b) the number of deaths that have taken place in the General Hospital since Dr. Puduval went on leave either in the Surgical or in the Medical Wards ;

(c) the total number of instruments now existing in the General Hospital and the total cost of the same ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—

Period since Dr. Puduval went on leave	Total number of operations	Major	Death in		Death after operation
			Surgical Ward	Medical Ward	
(a) and (b) 12th Meenam 1103 to 13th Vrischigam 1104	535	367	40	117	23

(c) 775. The cost of these instruments is not recorded in the register and it is not possible to find it out.

Medical Officers without transfer.

231. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state who are the officers in the Medical Department of the State who are kept now for more than three years in the same locality and the special reasons, if any, for doing so ?

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